

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. <sup>B-</sup>4694

### 1. Name

Historic 903-951 North Durham Street  
and / common

### 2. Location

street & number 903-951 North Durham Street  
city, town Baltimore  
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property

name  
street & number telephone  
city, town state & zip code

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber  
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio  
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title  
date federal state county local  
depository for survey records  
city, town state & zip code

## 7. Description

Condition		Check One	Check One
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move: <input type="text"/>

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of two-story, two-bay wide Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and wooden scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built in 1873 by the McDonough Place Company, a group of local investors who developed several blocks in the area. Many of the houses retain their original brick facades, which were always painted, and evidence remains that their basements were originally painted white, to imitate the marble used in more expensive houses. The remainder have been formstoned.

The row of twenty-five houses on the east side of the 900 block of South Durham Street were built by the McDonough Place Company in 1872, the same year as the east side of the 1000 block and are identical to the houses on both sides of that block. Some retain their original painted brick facades, but many have been formstoned or stuccoed.

The houses are two stories in height, only 11'6" wide and occupy lots 50' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted. Each house had a single hooded chimney located near the front and rear of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a continuous wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by a row of simple scroll-sawn modillions decorated with grooves as well as three long, scroll-sawn, grooved brackets connected by both an upper and lower molding strip and ending with a trefoil pattern. The cornice design is elaborate for this early date and can be viewed as transitional between the early and late Italianate forms. The tall, narrow window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels and wood sills. Several of the original 4/4 sash survive. The doorway transom has a single light and most of the doors are modern replacements. The door at 1008 South Durham Street may be original, with its five equal-sized horizontal panels. The houses sit on low basements, lit by a single-light sash with a flat lintel. Each house is reached by four wooden or concrete steps.

## 8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

**Specific dates** 1873

**Builder/Architect** The McDonough Place Company

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This simple form of small street house is typical of those built in the 1870s, often in neighborhoods of predominantly three story houses, like Union Square or the nearby Madison Square.

The houses were built by the McDonough Place Company, a consortium of local investors, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's new neighborhoods of the 1870s and 880s. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north-east of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 - \$1,500; small street houses for \$700 - \$900.

The houses sold to both homeowners and investors, interested in rental income. George H. Budeke, owner of an oil and paint store on South Broadway [still there] bought the northernmost corner house, which at 13'6" wide was designed to serve as a combination storefront/residence, which he may have operated as a second paint store location. An early homeowner, John Kotzka, worked as a cabinetmaker, a common trade for Bohemian settlers.

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*  
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

## 10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

## 11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date June 2000

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:  
DHCP/DHCD  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032-2023



8-4694

903-451 N. Madison St  
3470-115

ST.  
ST.

AVE.

ASHLAND

McDONOUGH

HOPKINS

E. MADISON

E. MONUMENT

HEBREW  
HOSPITAL

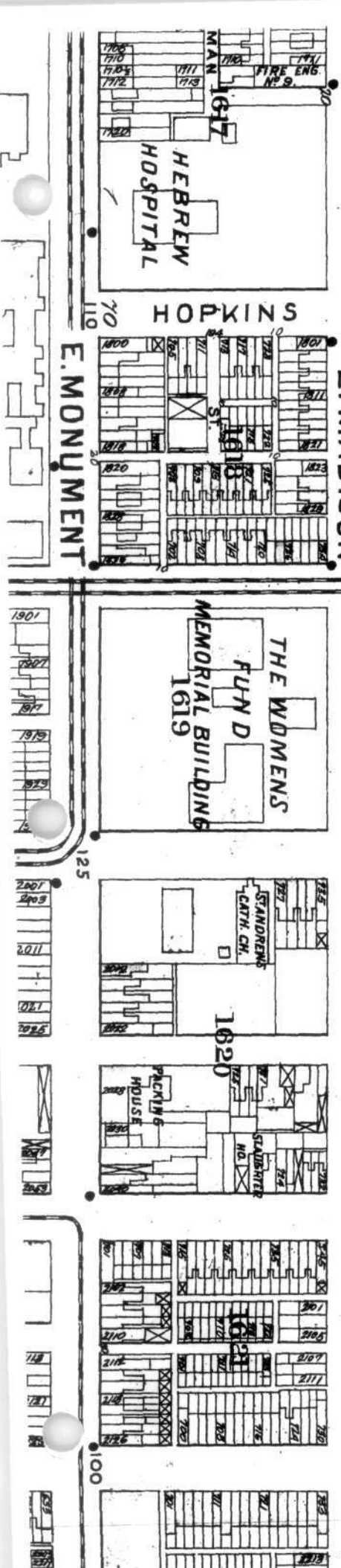
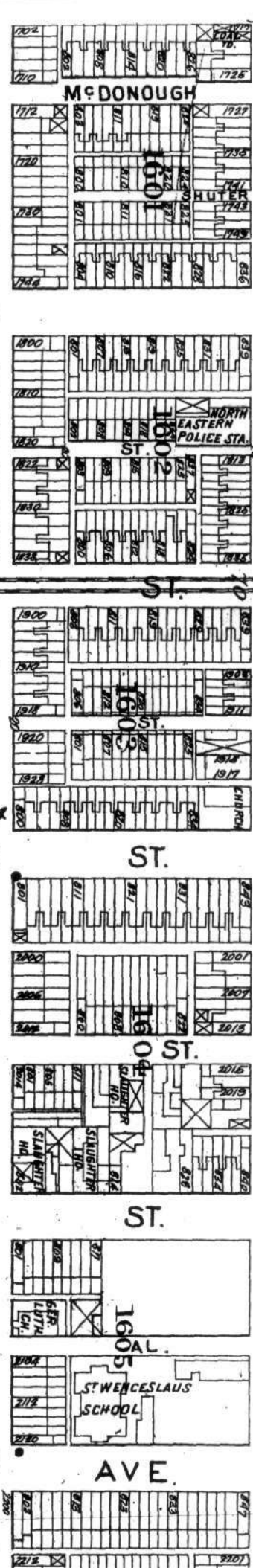
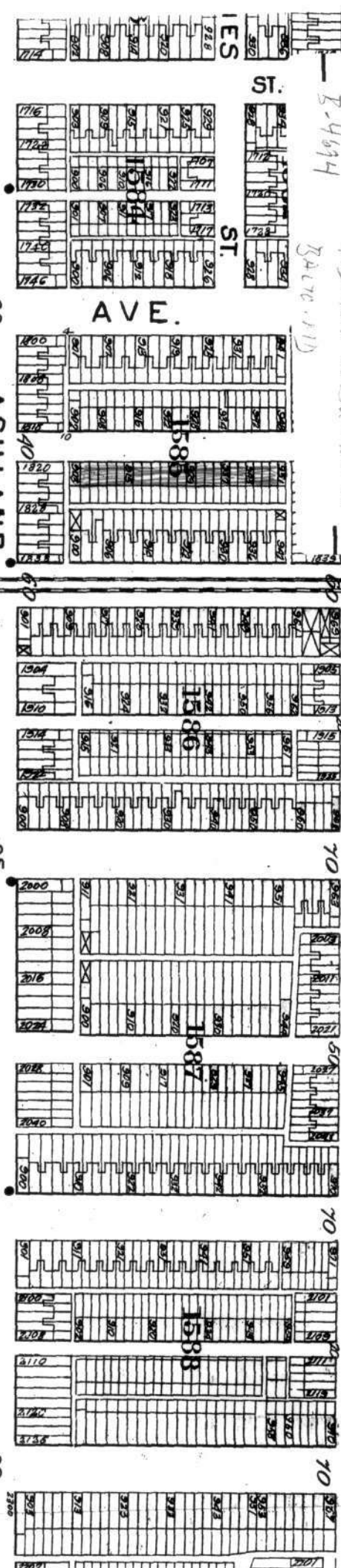
THE WOMEN'S  
FUND  
MEMORIAL BUILDING

STANDRENS  
CATH. CH.

PAINTING  
HOUSE

ST. WENCESLAUS  
SCHOOL

AVE.



B-4694  
903-951 N. Durham Street  
Block 1585, Lots 108-132  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.

**Demolished**





903-951 Durham

B-4694

903-951 N. Durham St.

BALTO. MD

S. Allan

180

[04]116 0211 N N N 12

7/97

MD SHPO

1/2





911 Durham  
W-12

3.

B-4694

911 N. Durham St.

BALTO. MD

W. Wild

8/96

2/2

2025 JAN 13 02:13 N 4432

100